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has to be lured into a concern for literature, but it has the advantage of giving something better to those who may be more worth suiting—students whose environment and training have already given them a bent in that direction. Those who are familiar with Mr. Pancoast's *Introduction to English Literature* will find the present book shorter but based on the same general plan. There is less literary criticism in it and more biography, and the student, on the whole, is led to concentrate on a smaller number of writers of the first importance. The gain in this change is great.

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A Caesar Composition Book. By H. F. SCOTT AND CHARLES H. VAN TUYL. Chicago: Scott, Foresman & Co., 1910. Pp. 120. \$0.30.

In these days of a crowded curriculum, shortened periods, and social activities in many forms, the problem of finding time for Latin prose is a difficult one. The present book goes very close to the heart of the matter by reducing the amount to the bare essentials and by presenting the principles simply and clearly. The writers have evidently discovered from their teaching experience that the second-year pupil is not so much in need of erudition as he is of the clear presentation of a few necessary facts.

The distinctive feature of the book is the elimination of the formal grammar as a textbook for the second year, the grammatical principles being stated at the head of each lesson with illustrative Latin sentences. However, the references to grammars in common use are given in fine print at the bottom of the page, for the convenience of those who believe that the student's introduction to the grammar should come in this way.

The lessons are twenty-nine in number, based on Books I and II of the *Galic War*. The teacher who prefers to have the prose accompany the text throughout the year, or who chooses interesting campaigns from the seven books as a whole instead of reading the traditional four, will find himself handicapped by this arrangement.

Each lesson includes two new principles of syntax only. The sentences for composition are arranged in two paragraphs, the first containing six very simple illustrations of the points in question, and the second containing two or three more difficult ones. In general the lessons are such that a pupil may feel that mastery of them is possible. It is the opinion of the reviewer that much of the dislike of prose work comes from the feeling of incompetence in the face of an appalling mass of grammatical references to be mastered and sentences to be written.

The constructions chosen for treatment are probably those which most teachers would consider essential. The question of the different types of perfect stems on p. 53 is the only point which might well be omitted. The treatment of certain small but important questions, such as the uses of *et*, *que*, and *atque*, the possessive used as a substantive, the superlative with *quam*, the peculiarities of *alius . . . alius*, and *mille* in the singular and plural, is very satisfactory, in that these are made prominent instead of being taken almost for granted in view of larger and more pressing questions.

The Appendix contains inflections reprinted from the *Bellum Helveticum*, several college-examination papers, and an English-Latin vocabulary, which would be more satisfactory if printed in larger type.

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Fungous Diseases of Plants. By BENJAMIN MINGE DUGGAR. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1909. Pp. xii+508. \$2.00.

This work fills a gap which for a decade or more has been open in our plant literature. During the past thirty years a mass of data vitally related to economic plant-production has been gathered by the plant pathologists and physiologists of our state and federal experiment stations and kindred institutions. This information has received such a miscellaneous publication that only a few of the more favorably situated workers could keep in touch with the progress made. None more keenly felt the need of such a compilation as Dr. Duggar has given us than did the instructor in plant pathology and his students.

Plant pathology is a comparatively recent science. To the Europeans we must attribute the earlier investigations upon parasitism and the knowledge obtained of the epidemic nature of certain infections. With the advent of our state universities and experiment stations we have made much progress in phytopathology. Our greatest successes lie along the line of the control of fungous pests affecting field and orchard crops. Also much has been contributed upon heretofore unknown parasites, especially those of bacterial origin. Dr. Duggar, in his compilation, has in nowise overlooked these more recent advances.

The book gives, to quote the author, "a comprehensive discussion of the chief fungous diseases of cultivated and familiar plants." The arrangement of the matter, from the standpoint of either a textbook or a reference work, is very good. The statements are concise and accurate. The author has used good judgment in the space allotted to each of the subjects treated. The essentials in the way of a bibliography heading each subject treated, together with a limited host index and a copious general index, will be of much value to the student.

The volume is attractive, well printed, and well illustrated. It is an excellent text for college courses in economic plant study, and will be of value also to teachers of nature-study and the more progressive of the laymen.

I trust that the book will receive such a ready acceptance that an early revision may be made, in order that the work may be kept up with the advances made in our knowledge of plant diseases. The volume might even now be enlarged to cover some fifty or more additional diseases. Further, I should like to see the host index extended to include all of the known parasites of the more familiar and economic plants, together with the essentials of a bibliography. If space demanded it, the host index and the bibliography might well be made in smaller type.

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